

BASIC INFO

Jordan Cove submitted an application for a site certificate exemption to ODOE and the Energy Facility Siting Council on June 22. An exemption would mean the facility would not need to receive a state-issued certificate to generate electricity. The application focused specifically on the energy-generating components of the larger proposed export facility.

ODOE staff have reviewed the application and will be finalizing recommendations for the Council to consider at its September 27 meeting. EFSC, which has jurisdiction over energy generating facilities with a capacity of 25 megawatts or more, approves or denies exemption requests. The larger Jordan Cove export facility is under Federal Energy Regulatory Commission jurisdiction.

WHAT'S ODOE RECOMMENDING?

ODOE staff have evaluated information provided by the applicant to determine if the facility meets the thresholds for an exemption. The analysis has focused on specific technical aspects of the facility related to energy output and efficiency and relied on both statute and rules for exemption requests.

Through this analysis, staff have determined that the facility as currently planned does not meet the exemption threshold, and ODOE will recommend that EFSC deny the application for exemption in September.

WHY DOESN'T THE FACILITY MEET THE EXEMPTION THRESHOLD?

Exemptions depend on meeting an efficiency threshold. An engineering analysis of the proposed facility undertaken by ODOE found that the plant's fuel efficiency was not high enough.

WHAT WILL EFSC DECIDE?

EFSC members will consider the exemption request for the first time at its September meeting. EFSC members are independent volunteers who will use all information as they weigh their decision – including information provided from the company and from the 45-day public comment period ODOE held over the summer.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE PROJECT?

The exemption request is just one pathway for Jordan Cove to receive authorization for the energy-generating components of the proposed facility. The company can also apply for and go through the Council's site certificate process.

The larger Jordan Cove facility is under Federal Energy Regulatory Commission jurisdiction, and there is the potential for FERC to fold the review of the energy generating components into the full export facility review.

The EFSC site certificate is just one of many state agency permits and authorizations the project will need. Many of those different review processes at various state agencies are underway.

IF FERC HAS JURISDICTION, WHY IS EFSC A DECISION-MAKER?

The Energy Facility Siting Council has jurisdiction over electric power generation facilities with a capacity of 25 megawatts or more. The proposed Jordan Cove facility includes three 30-megawatt steam turbine

generators that will provide electrical power to the surrounding liquefied natural gas terminal. Because the Jordan Cove Energy Project will produce electricity over this threshold, it must seek either permission to operate, which is granted in the form of a site certificate issued by the Council, or an exemption from a site certificate, based on specific criteria outlined in state law, which also must be approved by the Council.

As noted above, FERC could also include review of the energy generation facility in its full facility review, in which case a state-issued site certificate would no longer be needed.

WHAT HAPPENS IF JORDAN COVE DOESN'T SEEK A SITE CERTIFICATE FROM EFSC?

Site certificates are required for energy generating facilities of a certain size in the state of Oregon. The alternative would be if the review of the energy-generating components were rolled up into the full federal review process.